

**REMARKS**

Claims 204-206 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 207-249 have been added and therefore are pending in the present application. Claims 207-249 are supported by, e.g., claims 204-206.

It is respectfully submitted that the present amendment presents no new issues or new matter and places this case in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is requested.

**I. The Rejection of Claims 204 and 206 under 35 U.S.C. 102**

Claims 204 and 206 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Convents et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,443,750) and Schulein et al. (WO 94/07998). Convents et al. and Schulein et al. disclose a *Humicola insolens* endoglucanase which is said to have an amino acid sequence which is 78.8% identical to SEQ ID NO: 5 of the present invention and comprises the substitution Q119H and the substitution Q4R. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The *Humicola insolens* endoglucanase disclosed in Convents et al. and Schulein et al. is a wild-type endoglucanase and not a modified cellulase, as claimed herein. Thus, this endoglucanase does not have the substitution Q119H or Q4R. As explained in the specification, e.g., at page 4, the modified cellulases of the present invention do not include wild-type cellulases. Applicants therefore submit that this rejection has been overcome.

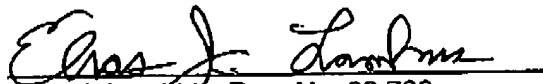
For the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that the claims overcome this rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

**II. Conclusion**

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that all claims are in condition for allowance. Early action to that end is respectfully requested. The Examiner is hereby invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if there are any questions concerning this amendment or application.

Respectfully submitted,

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